



Below is an update on the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan and Health Insurance Marketplace:

Iowa Health and Wellness Plan

Targeted Healthy Behaviors Mailing to Members in Late December: Iowa Health and Wellness Plan members will be receiving a mailing specifically speaking to Healthy Behaviors, and the potential premium owed if the activities are not completed. The first round of this mailing was sent in October.

The mailing will be sent only to members who will owe a premium beginning in January or February 2015 if the activities are not completed. Mailings will continue to other members in early 2015. Members who will not owe a premium and will be excluded from the upcoming mailing are: Wellness Plan members with income below 50 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, medically exempt members, and members that are American Indian or Alaskan Native. Also excluded from the mailing are members who have already completed both Healthy Behaviors.

Access samples of the mailings below:

- [Wellness Plan– Need to Complete Both Activities](#)
- [Wellness Plan– Need to Complete HRA](#)
- [Wellness Plan– Need to Complete Wellness Exam](#)
- [Marketplace Choice Plan – Need to Complete Both Activities](#)
- [Marketplace Choice Plan – Need to Complete HRA](#)
- [Marketplace Choice Plan – Need to Complete Wellness Exam](#)

Iowa Wellness Plan VIS Program and Incentive Payment Rate Change: As announced in Informational Letter 1461, beginning in January 2015, the VIS Medical Home incentive payment will change from \$4.00 Per Member Per Month (PMPM) to \$5.00 PMPM. The Patient Manager Management payment will also change from \$4.00 PMPM to \$3.00 PMPM. This shift in payment is reflected in both the Patient Manager Wellness Plan agreement and the Iowa Medicaid Accountable Care Organization (ACO) agreement. Learn more by [accessing Informational Letter 1461](#).

New Iowa Wellness Plan Managed Care Map Available: A new Iowa Wellness Plan managed care map has been released. The managed care program will be available in Lee County beginning February 2015. [Access the new map here](#).

State Innovation Model Grant Update

Iowa Awarded \$43 Million State Innovation Model Testing Grant: On Tuesday, December 16, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced that Iowa was one of eleven

recipients of the State Innovation Model Testing grant. Iowa was awarded \$43.1 million over a four year period. Iowa's plan for health system transformation builds upon the ACO model that currently covers the Iowa Wellness Plan population. Learn more by reading the [official announcement](#) and [accessing details on Iowa's award](#). Access [Iowa's testing grant application materials](#) to learn about the proposed approach.

Health Insurance Marketplace

Enrollment Deadline: December 15 was the last day to enroll in coverage that starts January 1. Open enrollment continues until February 15, 2015. Applications submitted and changes made to current coverage between December 16, 2014 and January 15, 2015, will be effective February 1, 2015. Applications submitted and changes made to current coverage between January 16 and February 15, will be effective March 1, 2015.

Update – Open Enrollment: For returning customers, it pays to shop. If consumers enrolled in Marketplace coverage last Open Enrollment, they should come back to HealthCare.gov and update their information – including information about income – so that tax credits and financial assistance are properly calculated. Most consumers, who already have Marketplace insurance and did not take action by the December 15 deadline, will be automatically enrolled by their insurance company into their current plan or a plan with similar benefits.

2015 Marketplace Options and Savings: A new [report](#) shows more options and savings for consumers who shop in the Health Insurance Marketplace in 2015. Nearly 8 in 10 current Marketplace consumers can find coverage in the 2015 Marketplace for \$100 or less, taking into account any applicable tax credits. In 2014, 85 percent of consumers who selected a Marketplace plan received financial assistance. The report shows that premiums for the second-lowest cost, or “benchmark,” silver plan held stable for 2015 coverage, with only a modest 2 percent increase on average before tax credits in 35 states. Many consumers will be eligible for tax credits to help with the cost of monthly premiums.

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